Contents

Preface vii

Hydrology and underwater climate of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania: a review
by J. Sevrin-Reyssac 1

Wind, surface water temperature, surface salinity and pollution in the area of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
by Sidina ould Dedah 9

Hydrographical observations west of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in May 1988
by Y. Loktionov 21

Remote sensing of sea surface and coastal features in the area of the Golfe d'Arguin, Mauritania
by F. Cuq 33

Heavy metals (Cu, Zn, Pb, Cd) in sediment, zooplankton and epibenthic invertebrates from the area of the continental slope of the Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania)
by J. M. Everaarts, R. Heesters & C. V. Fischer 41

Leaf dynamics and standing stocks of intertidal *Zostera noltii* Hornem. and *Cymodocea nodosa* (Ucria) Ascherson on the Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania)
by J. E. Vermaat, J. A. J. Beijer, R. Gijlstra, M. J. M. Hootsmans, C. J. M. Philippart, N. W. van den Brink & W. van Vierssen 59

Periphyton density and shading in relation to tidal depth and fiddler crab activity in intertidal seagrass beds of the Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania)
by M. J. M. Hootsmans, J. E. Vermaat & J. A. J. Beijer 73

Primary production and distribution of phytopigments in the water column and sediments on the upwelling shelf off the Mauritanian coast (Northwest Africa)
by E. M. Berghuis, G. C. A. Duineveld & J. Hegeman 81

Distribution of sponges on the Mauritanian continental shelf
by R. W. M. van Soest 95

The benthic infauna and benthic respiration off the Banc d'Arguin (Mauritania, Northwest Africa)
by G. C. A. Duineveld, P. A. W. J. de Wilde, E. M. Berghuis & A. Kok 107

Patterns in pelagic and benthic nanoflagellate densities in the coastal upwelling system along the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
by R. P. M. Bak & G. Nieuwland 119

Zooplankton distribution in the coastal upwelling system along the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
by B. R. Kuipers, H. J. Witte & S. R. Gonzalez 133

Biomass of macrobenthic tidal flat fauna of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
by W. J. Wolff, A. G. Duiven, P. Duiven, P. Esselink, Abou Gueye, A. Meijboom, G. Moerland & J. Zegers 151

The trawlfauna of the Mauritanian shelf (Northwest Africa): density, species composition, and biomass
by G. C. A. Duineveld, M. S. S. Lavaleye & G. J. van Noort 165

Food items of the grey mullet *Mugil cephalus* in the Banc d'Arguin area (Mauritania)
by H. Michaelis 175

The distribution and abundance of young fish on the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania
by Z. Jager 185
Seabirds in the shelf edge waters bordering the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania, in May
by M. F. Leopold 197
The functioning of the ecosystem of the Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania: a review
by W. J. Wolff, J. van der Land, P. H. Nienhuis & P. A. W. J. de Wilde 211